

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1998

446B0461

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1005

Introduced by: Representatives Lucas, Apa, Davis, Fischer-Clemens, Gleason, Haley, Kazmerzak, Lee, Lockner, Napoli, Sokolow, Sperry, Volesky, and Waltman and Senators Hunhoff, Hutmacher, Kloucek, Lawler, Olson, and Reedy

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Requesting the Congress of the United States to pass
2 legislation providing election campaign finance reform.

3 WHEREAS, expenditures for election campaigns for Congress have been rising each election
4 year; and

5 WHEREAS, in the 1996 election campaign for the position of United States Senator, the
6 State of South Dakota experienced a campaign in which the candidates spent eight million dollars
7 on campaign expenses and bombarded our citizens with campaign advertisements for a year prior
8 to the election; and

9 WHEREAS, despite the huge cost of this election in South Dakota, it is a mere drop in the
10 bucket if compared to similar elections in more heavily populated states; and

11 WHEREAS, the increasing cost of Congressional elections has led to a never-ending
12 solicitation by candidates for contributions from businesses, political action committees, and
13 individuals; and

14 WHEREAS, eighty percent of all campaign contributions are made by less than one percent

1 of the voters; and

2 WHEREAS, these high campaign expenditures and the corresponding need for campaign
3 contributions has given the voters of the State of South Dakota and the nation the perception
4 that campaign contributions buy influence in Congress; and

5 WHEREAS, these expenditures and contributions tarnish the image of representative
6 government and fuel voter apathy; and

7 WHEREAS, the Congress must pass meaningful election finance campaign reform to help
8 restore voter confidence in our federal election process:

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-
10 Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Congress
11 of the United States pass election campaign finance reform which would call for campaign
12 expenditure limits on each candidate for the United States House of Representatives and on each
13 candidate for the United States Senate; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Congress of the United States should also provide
15 in such legislation for campaign limits on in-kind contributions for each candidate for the United
16 States House of Representatives and for each candidate for the United States Senate.